

Remarks

No amendments are submitted at this time. Accordingly, claims 1-57 remain pending, with claims 1-30 under active prosecution, and claims 31-57 withdrawn from consideration, subject to a request for rejoinder thereof. A detailed listing of claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented herein, beginning on page 2 of the present communication, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

The restriction of claims 1-57 under 35 USC § 121 as allegedly being drawn to five separate inventions, is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the claims have been restricted into an excessive number of groups. For example, the Group III claims (claims 32-35) are drawn to specific uses to which the transport molecules of Group I can be applied. Therefore, a thorough search of the Group III claims would, of necessity, require a search of the Group I claims as well.

Similarly, a thorough search of the Group I claims would, of necessity, require a search of the Group IV claims as well (as the Group IV claims are directed to dendrimers from which the Group I transport molecules can be prepared). Accordingly, no savings of PTO resources will be realized by maintaining the requirement for restriction as set forth herein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for restriction is respectfully requested. Alternatively, re-grouping of the claims into a smaller number of groups is requested.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-30) with traverse. Non-elected claims 31-57 are retained in the application pending final disposition of the elected claims, and are subject to a request for rejoinder.

The further requirement under 35 USC § 121 to elect a single disclosed species, is respectfully traversed. With respect to the dendrimer, it is respectfully submitted that the claims

as presented specify several requirements that must be met for a compound to fall within the scope thereof, and therefore, can readily be searched without the need to specify additional requirements with respect to preferred dendrimers according to the invention.

Further, with respect to the molecule bonded to the dendrimer, since the dendrimer itself is novel, any transport molecule prepared by bonding a biologically active molecule thereto is also novel. Therefore, there is no need to elect a single species of biologically active molecule to facilitate searching of the present invention.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicants hereby elect the dendrimer set forth in claim 17 as the dendrimer, and methotrexate as the biologically active molecule, covalently bonded thereto.

Claims 1-15, 17, 24, 25, 29 and 30 read on the elected species.

In view of the above remarks, prompt and favorable action on all claims are respectfully requested. In the event any issues remain to be resolved in view of this communication, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

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